

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1367  
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2010  
PER CAPITA EXTERNAL DEBT  
Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa

**Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the per capita external debt of the country as on 31 December, 2009; and
- (b) the steps taken to reduce the same?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE(SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

- (a) As per the latest estimates, India's per capita external debt stood at Rupees 9,968 (US\$ 207.5) as at end-September 2009.
- (b) India's external debt has been within manageable limits as indicated by the external debt to GDP ratio of 20.5 per cent and debt service ratio of 4.4 per cent during 2008-09. This has been possible due to external debt management policy that emphasizes on raising sovereign loans on concessional terms with longer maturities, regulating external commercial borrowings and their end-use, rationalising interest rates on NRI deposits and monitoring long and short-term debt.